

THE RIO NEWS.

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very little is known among the masses abroad about the great South American republic, which contains an area equal to that of the United States.

In speaking of the character of Brazil and the Brazilians it is impossible to generalize. The inhabitants of Brazil are radically different, according to the latitudes in which they live and the race mixtures of which they are the product.

While the sociological and climatic conditions are such that the Saxon, Teutonic and Celtic races cannot prosper in the North of Brazil, it is far different in the states of Southern Brazil. There is life, there is vigor and aggressive energy. In the Northern states, especially along the coast, the atmosphere is mostly moist, overheated, enervated and often disease-breeding. The three southern states, Paraná, Santa Catharina and Rio Grande do Sul, with the exception of a few coast towns, are blessed with an almost ideal climate, and are absolutely free from epidemics.

In the North, the children of white immigrants are mostly smaller than their parents, and show signs of nervous and organic degeneracy. The second generation in the South, however, is very frequently more vigorous than the first, and enjoys a degree of vitality unexcelled anywhere on our planet.

The same, by the way, may be said of the domestic animals. Horses, cats, dogs, etc., rapidly degenerate in the climate of northern Brazil, but in the southern states their development and usefulness is all that may be desired.

Strong and characteristic is the contrast, physiologically as well as psychologically, between the northern and southern Brazilian type. There are and always were comparatively few colored people in the South, slavery not having been tolerated anywhere in the German colonies, and the Germans, so very numerous in the three southern states, have never inter-married with the colored or the scabbe element. Even very rarely, as far as the first generation is concerned, with the native Latins, both races being a great deal less in touch with each other than they ought to be.

The dissimilarity of the South and the North of Brazil is also the reason or pretext why opponents of the present system of government in Brazil, or foreigners with whom the wish is father to the thought, often prophesy that the South would, in a very near future, secede to form a republic of their own, etc., etc. Absurd idea!

The southern Brazilians are a patriotic people who firmly believe in the future of the Brazilian nation and are certain that the three southern states, together with the great states of São Paulo and Minas Geraes, are destined to play a leading part in the Union.

Southern Brazil is wonderfully endowed by nature; it has a very favorable geographical position, a fine climate, a rich soil, gigantic rivers, mountains and meadows, a sea front of 750 miles on the east, with numerous natural harbors, and, last but not least, it has its great forests which, with their endless varieties of valuable hard woods, their palms, roots and herbs, and their herba mate, furnish the colonist with almost everything needed for food and shelter, and thus give that country a decided advantage over the treeless plains of Argentine and Uruguay.

What southern Brazil needs is: Capital, transportation, and more men of skill and enterprise to develop its vast resources.

Only one-tenth of this great country of 332,500 miles square are under the influence of civilization. There is nowhere a more lucrative field for legitimate enterprise. Will the people of the United States, who have lately so vigorously asserted themselves, as one of the leading industrial and commercial powers of the world, continue to refrain from competition with the Europeans in an American field of such exceptional promise, or will they come forward and help in the development of the richest section in South America?

Of course we cannot send colonists. But we can send ships with merchandise, improved machinery and implements of all kinds. We can send capital with engineers and electricians. We can construct roads, canals, bridges, factories, gas works, electric plants, etc. We can organize new industries and improve the old ones, and we can show an industrious, hard-working and sympathetic people how to fight the battle of life with improved weapons and to enjoy its pleasures in a potential way. That would be no sure of the work. And it would be for mutual benefit.

The development and advancement of the southern states of Brazil will be the stepping-stone to an enterprise yet greater and more important, which cannot fail to materially influence the character and future of the southern half of this continent, an enterprise cut out for the early part of the century on whose threshold we are now standing; the building of a railroad connecting the capital of Paraguay with the Brazilian railroads already existing or soon to be constructed, with terminal points in Porto União (on the Iguaçu, in the heart of Paraná) and in one or two ports of the state of Santa Catharina, on the Atlantic coast. Thus the great "hinterland" of the southern states of Brazil: Paraguay, Mato Grosso, so rich in mineral and agricultural resources, Goyaz and a large part of the Amazon country—which territories now have but a slow and precarious river connection with the outside world, by way of Buenos Ayres—would be brought two thousand miles nearer their natural outlets and enjoy the blessings of a rapid transit; the most important part of

South America would be opened to the markets of the world.

We ought to have our legitimate share in this grand industrial enterprise. We cannot reap a harvest without sowing the seed; we cannot expect benefits for which we have not worked in competition with others. The great commercial advantages the Germans have secured in South America during the last ten years are not surprising in view of the efforts made for them.

German capital is invested there largely, and in a few months the German-Brazilian Bank, a very strong and lucrative institution, will have a branch in Porto Alegre. The German fleet in the service of the South American trade receives additions every year and is developing into a highly profitable enterprise.

Not less than thirty-one steamers were built within the last ten years for the service of the trade with the east coast of South America and the River Plate countries, by the Hamburg-South American Steamship Company, twenty during the last five years, six in 1898. Six steamers of this line call regularly at the southern Brazilian ports, and the next year there will be two more, besides the cargo steamers of the Freitas line of Hamburg and half a dozen steamers of the North German Lloyd and the Hansa Company.

If we are not willing to let our legitimate share of the trade with South America, and particularly with the promising southern states of Brazil, go by default, we will have to bestir ourselves to make up for lost time and to enter into a rational, vigorous and systematic competition.

In order to do this successfully, it will be necessary to create a regular American steamer service between the United States and the principal South American ports; to establish a banking system, with branches at Pará, Rio de Janeiro, Blumenau, Porto Alegre and Buenos Ayres; to take a leading part in the construction of railroads necessary to develop the resources of the southern states of Brazil. Let us hope that our capitalists, manufacturers, exporters, and our national law makers will find time to give this matter the proper attention.

Detailed information as to the different points above referred to, can always be obtained by our department of state and your obedient servant.

It is a great and inspiring sight to see the great American flag—the Star Spangled Banner—on top of the mast of war vessels sailing into a foreign port. I had the pleasure to witness it when the Oregon and Iowa came into Brazil. I say it is a great sight, but it is still a greater and more inspiring sight to see that glorious banner in the interests of American commerce, to see it on the mast of a vessel of the American merchant marine, and in the service of civilization, and I hope that everyone of our countrymen who are here will use his influence to that effect with his congressmen and with all men who have influence and who have a voice in the affairs of the nation. And in this hope I take leave of you and thank you heartily for the kind attention that you have been so good as to bestow on me. (Applause).

SCENE OF THE BATTLE.

The Modder or Mud River is a stream of no particular importance, about 30 ft. across under ordinary circumstances. In flood time, after a storm, it is double that width, and rushes along at a great rate, and its yellow-brown waters (hence the name) look like a small torrent. However, the flood subsides almost as quickly as it comes down.

The river is fringed on either side by stunted willows and low bushes, thick and impenetrable in parts. The banks are comparatively shallow, and there are several drifts or fords within a few miles.

The country on either side is very flat, but is backed up at some little distance, in a westerly direction, by spurs or foothills jutting out almost at right angles, with a north-westerly inclination.

The river itself, with its wooded banks, would give any amount of cover; but once beyond the belt of brushwood, the country is very open for some miles due north. The foothills reappear across the river, but at a greater distance from the railway line.

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With the fact that there's a government behind you
Which, while you do its dirty work, supplies your bread and cheese
Though you can't find a decent suit to mind you;
You're a vicious minded beggar if you dip your pen in gall
To smother the fame of Britain's best and bravest,
Who're really risking life and limb of their Queen and country's call,
And know the task before them is the gravest.

(The son of a gun said Lyttleton, Buller, Methuen, White,
Powell and French and Gatacre, were asses all in a row,
—The man must be no end of an ass—don't you think I am right?
To open his mouth to say this thing and bray, bray, bray.)

We can trust our Yommies fighting for the honor of our flag,
From the veriest recency to the Chief,
And to call our capitalists in an Anglo-Braz'n rag
Is a blooming insult passing all belief.
You're a vicious minded beggar, and a misfit all your life,
With finance and journalism reckoned too;
But as military critic and a judge of warlike strife,
Why another dismal failure must accrue.

(See cook's son, son of a gun, son of a horse marke,
Type of a carping renegade, with nothing good to say,
Running amuck with his countrymen fighting to-day for our Queen,
Shut his mouth for our credit's sake or he'll bray, bray, bray.)

When Buller's in Pretoria and Kruger's singing small,
And our Yommies are the heroes of the hour,
The thunder of the storm of praise will drown your tiny squall
And the laureates will sing Great Britain's power.
You're a vicious minded beggar, your call's the jumping cat,
And you'd kick a brother Briton when he's down;
But we can trust the cattle of Jack, Sandy, Taff and Fat,
And the other gallant soldiers of the Crown.

(Son of a skink, born in a funk, bred of a cowardly strain,
Wretched disgrace to all of his race to croak of our decay;
Lik'ning the greatest empire of modern times to Spain
Stop his mouth for his credit's sake and his bray, bray, bray.)

When writing of Brazilian debts, you're writing them for gain
And you profit by the lies that come your way;
And those that know the clip you are all treat you with disdain,
But you don't insult our officers for pay.
You're a vicious minded beggar, and you try to vent your spleen
On the great neck of the moment with evasive flouts and jeers
Because they are what you are not, tried and trusted by their Queen
And—what sticks most within your throat—they're successful Engineers.

(The underdone son of a gun, conceited ignorant prig!
Passing his tin-op judgments on the generals of the day,
Suggesting that they are like himself—but of course with ears less big,
Stop his mouth for his credit's sake and his bray, bray, bray.)

TELEGRAMS OF THE WEEK

OUR OWN SPECIAL SERVICE

LONDON

LONDON, 19TH DECEMBER, 4.25 p.m.

The news circulated respecting General Sir Redvers Buller's crossing the Tugela river and of the cutting of General Lord Methuen's communications south of Modder river are unconfirmed.* The reports are generally not believed.

It is understood that between thirty thousand and forty thousand Yeomanry and Irregular Horse from Great Britain alone will be sent to South Africa.

LONDON, 20TH DECEMBER, 6.20 a.m.

The situation continues unchanged in South Africa, no advices having been received of any new operations.

The war office has issued its schemes for the employment of the yeomanry and volunteers corps in the field.

Ten thousand mounted men are to be sent to Capetown under Lord Chesham, of the Bucks yeoman cavalry.

A company of one hundred and ten men and four officers of volunteers will be attached to each line battalion now in South Africa, or to be sent there, each company replacing the existing mounted infantry company of the line battalions.

LONDON, 21ST DECEMBER, 5.25 a.m.

To reinforce the British army in South Africa and to maintain the integrity of the empire in that part of the world, the Dominion of Canada will send at once five hundred and thirty mounted men and three batteries of field artillery.

The colony of New South Wales will also send one battery of field artillery.

All the Australian colonies combined will send a second contingent of mounted infantry. It is expected that the Australian contingents will be ready for embarkation within the next fortnight.

No news of importance to which full credence can be given has been received from the seat of operations in South Africa.

LONDON, 22ND DECEMBER, 6.15 a.m.

Official advices from Natal are to the effect that Ladysmith is amply supplied with food and ammunition and is able to hold out much longer than has been thought possible.

The troops comprising the garrison are cheery and eager to meet the enemy.

General Sir Redvers Buller is strengthening himself with reinforcements, munitions and artillery, and it is confidently believed that he will re-attack the enemy's position on the Tugela river as soon as his preparations are complete.

There is a general lack of news from the seat of war.

LONDON, 23RD DECEMBER, 5.05 a.m.

A bombardment of Ladysmith occurred on Monday last. The British losses were seven killed and twelve wounded.

Dr. Leyds, the Transvaal agent in Europe, has invited M. Delcassé, the French minister of foreign affairs, to use his good offices in the cause of peace.

M. Delcassé responded evasively, to learn the proposals which the Boers are willing to make.

Dr. Leyds suggested the payment of an indemnity by the British government and that the independence of the Boer republics should be guaranteed.

It is believed that the Boers are becoming short of ammunition.

It is also believed that friction has arisen between the adherents of President Steyn and President Kruger.

Mr. Winston Churchill, the press correspondent who was reported to have escaped from Pretoria a few days ago, has arrived at Delagoa Bay.

LONDON, 25TH DECEMBER, 6.40 a.m.

The situation here and in South Africa is unchanged.

The government has again refused to grant permission to H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught to go to the front.

Late advices report that the temper of the colonists of Cape Colony is excellent.

The war office announces that enlistments have exceeded the number of volunteers required to reinforce the British forces in South Africa.

It would appear that despite the reverses inflicted upon the British forces recently, the invading armies of the enemy are remitting on the defensive. They have made no effort to follow up their successes.

It is reported from India that the Sixteenth Lancers (Queen's) is going to South Africa.

It is announced that General Lord Kitchener of Khartoum has resigned the office of sirdar of the Anglo-Egyptian army, and that Colonel Wingate, who recently crushed the Khalifa's last attempt at resistance, has been appointed to succeed him.

LONDON, 26TH DECEMBER, 8.50 a.m.

The situation continues unchanged.

Advices from Capetown state that Battery No. 63 has left there for Natal.

General Sir Redvers Buller is awaiting the arrival of howitzers before resuming his advance.

The Tantallon Castle is expected to arrive at Capetown to-morrow.

It is reported that enteric fever is spreading to some extent in Ladysmith.

The Maplemore with a half of the Household Cavalry is reported to have arrived at Capetown.

According to reports from Boer sources their losses at Colenso numbered only thirty men. This is not generally credited, as it is believed that their losses were undoubtedly very heavy, although they were well protected by their entrenchments.

SUMMARY FROM DAILY PRESS

Great Britain.

DEC. 19.—Lord Roberts is embarking on Saturday next, and Gen. Kitchener has already left Oudhrum on his way to Cairo.—The war office is advised of great numbers of enlistments at home and in the colonies.—Telegrams from South Africa report that Gen. Gatacre has shot the guides who led his army to Stormberg.—There is no news from Gen. Methuen.—The news that Gen. Warren had been instructed to proceed at once to unite with Gen. Methuen has been badly received, public opinion favoring his going to Natal.—A report is current that Gen. Buller has forced a passage of the Tugela and is moving toward Ladysmith, the war office refusing to affirm or deny it.—A contingent of Canadian volunteers will embark by the end of the week, and one from Australia will be ready to embark at the beginning of January.—From Sterkstroom it is reported that Gen. Gatacre has prohibited travelling about in that district. (The British generals seem determined to provoke a general revolt among the Afrikaners.)—In London great indignation was caused by a report of the death of the Queen, invented and circulated by stock exchange speculators.—Advices from Modder river before the cutting of communications state that the Boers were extending their fortifications around the eastern flank of the British encampment, and on the west they reach the river.

DEC. 20.—Revised official returns state that the British had 142 men killed at the Tugela river battle.—No news either from Gen. Buller or Gen. Methuen.—The eastern coast cable continues interrupted.—A telegram via Berlin says a British force north of Arandou encountered the Boers and was compelled to retire.—A railway train has arrived at Capetown with about 600 soldiers wounded in recent engagements.—A Pretoria telegram says the Boers are steadily approaching Mafeking and will soon attack the place.—The death is announced of the celebrated bibliophile Bernard Quaritch.

DEC. 21.—Meager dispatches received.—It is stated that Gen. Methuen is awaiting the forward movement of Sir Charles Warren, commanding the 3rd division, in the direction of Bloemfontein.—It is stated that Gen. Roberts and Kitchener will meet at Funchal, and will then proceed to Capetown together.—It is reported that Gen. Buller is disposed to renew his attack on the enemy's positions as soon as circumstances will permit.—Reports are current in Capetown of skirmishes in the vicinity of Stormberg.—Signs of general discontent are still apparent among the Afrikaners.—The corporation of the City of London has voted £25,000 to raise a corps of 1,000 men for South Africa.—Telegrams from Bombay state that mortality from bubonic pest is increasing there at an alarming rate.

DEC. 22.—The enlistments in England are going on actively, people of all classes, the nobility, capitalists, merchants, etc., asking to be inscribed in the volunteers for service in South Africa.—Lord Roberts was received by the Queen preparatory to his departure.—The government has freighted the "Umbria" to carry troops, and it is said the "Oceanic" and other steamers will also be freighted for the same service.—There is lack of news from the seat of war.—It is only known that Gen. Buller has abandoned his advanced position and has withdrawn his forces more to the south.—It is said the Boers can not use the cannon abandoned at Tugela river, because certain parts were removed by the British.—The war office announces that in the bombardment of Ladysmith on the 18th the British had 7 killed and 14 wounded.—It is stated that the wheat crop in the Free State will be lost because all the men are under arms. (The women will attend to the wheat, never fear.)—The Westminster Gazette of to-day favors peace with the Boers.—The Duke of Westminster is gravely ill.—Gen. Kitchener embarked at Alexandria yesterday to join Lord Roberts at Funchal.

DEC. 23.—A telegram from the seat of war says that according to Gen. Buller's plans the Boers will be expelled from Natal before the end of February, and that he will be in Pretoria in March. (Gen. Buller's plans have miscarried once, and he should therefore leave some margin for his new ones.)—According to latest advices Gen. Buller's losses at the Tugela aggregated 1,160 men.—It is now reported that Gen. Buller was slightly wounded at the Tugela by a spent piece of a shell.—The Duke of Westminster died last night.—Field-Marshal Lord Roberts embarked to-day at Southampton.—The government has freighted the Royal Mail steamer "Nile" and is negotiating for the "Thames." A Pretoria telegram says Churchill was to have been released, by order of Gen. Jonbert, and that he took advantage of the liberty given him to make his escape. The Boers speak of his conduct as cowardly and servile.—The Duke of Queensbury is gravely ill.

DEC. 24.—A railway collision on the New-haven line caused the death of three persons.—There is no news from South Africa.

DEC. 25.—Gen. Methuen telegraphs that he has entrenched his camp at Modder river and that the state of his troops is excellent. He has submitted various farmers to court martial for disloyalty.—From Chieveley it is telegraphed that heavy firing was heard from the direction of Ladysmith. The Boers are said to be using 8-shaped trenches.—Gen. Buller has complained of the bad quality of the meats received from Argentina and Australia.—The Free States forces are said to be fortifying Jacobusdorp. President Steyn is said to have decided to move his capital to Vryburg, because of the impossibility of fortifying Bloemfontein.

United States.

DEC. 20.—Advice has been received that Gen. Lawton has been killed in an attack on San Mateo, north-east of Manila. (Gen. Lawton was one of the bravest and most energetic officers in the United States army. His record is an exceptionally honorable one, and he was a great favorite with his men. If we are not mistaken, he entered service from civil life.)

DEC. 22.—The Herald says the Tagalos have succeeded in purchasing cannons and munitions abroad.

DEC. 23.—The government has refused Marconi's proposals to establish his telegraphic system throughout the United States.—The New York municipal council has passed a resolution, petitioning the Almighty to help the Boers. (When a New York alderman approaches the Almighty, something must happen.)

DEC. 24.—Manila telegrams report that Aguinaldo has escaped into southern Luzon, his wife dying during the journey. An American force is closely following the Tagalos for the purpose of liberating the American prisoners.—At Manila 200 more liberated Spanish prisoners are expected, principally clericals.—The government has ordered the opening of the railway in northern Luzon.

Spain.

DEC. 20.—All efforts to reconcile the opposition in order to pass the general revenue bill before 31st December have failed.

DEC. 21.—A telegram from "Las Palmas" reports the British transport "Denton" aground within sight of that city.

DEC. 22.—The chamber has prorogued the present budget until the new one is voted.—Martial law has been withdrawn from Barcelona, where disturbances of the peace have ceased.

DEC. 23.—One hundred and twenty Spanish prisoners of the Philippines have arrived at Madrid.

France.

DEC. 20.—Deputy Marcel Habert was yesterday placed under arrest on a charge of conspiracy. His advocate asked to have him tried with the others, which the court refused. At this Paul Deroulede denounced the senators comprising the court as base and infamous. A violent tumult followed. The high tribunal then condemned Deroulede to two years imprisonment and expulsion from the audiences.—A motion in the chamber to grant provisional release to Habert was rejected by a vote of 329 to 195.

DEC. 21.—The Chinese minister at Paris has informed the French government that China will give all the satisfaction demanded for the delimitation of the Kwang teheon-wan region and the killing of two French officers.

Germany.

DEC. 20.—In discussing recent events in South Africa the German press, for the greater part, comments in favor of the Boers.

DEC. 21.—The importation of cast-off clothing from Brazil has been prohibited. [In view of the situation here, we shall probably have to resume wearing it.]

DEC. 22.—Berlin journals are occupied with the assassination of a negro in Damaraland by Lieut. Prince of Arenberg.—The Prince Hohenlohe tendered his resignation last week, but the Emperor refused to accept it. The conservative press, incited by ex-Minister Miquel, continues to attack the Prince with great vigor.

DEC. 23.—The socialist deputy Liebknecht asserts that at present the government and people of Germany are in sympathy with France.—The German press is expressing pessimist views of the outcome of the Anglo-Boer war and considers an European intervention probable.—A private telegram received in Berlin says the British government has ordered Gens. Buller, Gatacre and Methuen to withdraw more to the south.

Italy.

DEC. 19.—The Pope has directed a protest to various Catholic monarchs against the use of anti-clerical reading selections in the public schools, especially in Italy.

DEC. 22.—Sig. Prospero Colonna has been elected syndic of Rome.—A destructive landslide in Anagni caused the destruction of several houses, two deaths and ten wounded.

DEC. 23.—Subsequent advices from Anagni state that the victims exceed 20, and that the losses are estimated at a million liras.—A telegram from Livorno states that the "Umberto," from Egypt, has been quarantined because of persons ill on board suspected of bubonic pest.

DEC. 24.—The Pope presided at the customary annual religious ceremonies at St. Peter's.—Manlio Garibaldi is reported gravely ill.—A severe storm on the Italian coast is believed to have caused many wrecks.

DEC. 25.—The Pope is indisposed because of the fatigue caused by yesterday's ceremonies.

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs, a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a summary of the daily coffee reports and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 26th, 1899.

We are now at the close of another year, but unhappily there is no satisfaction to be derived in marking off the year on the difficult road over which we are toiling. We can check off the twelve months off the year and congratulate ourselves that we shall never have to live them again—and that is all. At every step we have met with difficulty and disappointment, and no matter how strenuously we have struggled to overcome them and to avert impending disasters, we have accomplished nothing but defeat. It is a hopeless country indeed where a year's honest work leaves the great majority of its population worse off at the end of the year than at the beginning, and yet that is exactly the state in which the people of Brazil now find themselves. They have less work to do, wages are lower and less certain, the costs of living are higher, their commerce is declining as also are many of their industries, their private fortunes are being dissipated, and their public debt has greatly increased. More than this, their good name and credit have been greatly prejudiced, and the standard of honesty among those to whom they have entrusted the reins of government, has been steadily lowered. They have asked for relief, but they have been spurned and lectured for their audacity. They have suffered privations and losses, but there has been no pity shown them—not even the charity wasted upon the professional beggar at the church door. And for them the year closes darkly and hopelessly. In business, however, many have accommodated themselves to the state of depression and disorganization which surrounds us and are determined to make the best of it—which after all is the better course. Some day, they say, the change will come, and then we shall be here to claim our reward. And that the coming of that day may not be far distant, is the prayer of many a toiler throughout the length and breadth of this land of chronic misgovernment and infinitely apathetic acquiescence in its results.

The gratuitous attack on the British generals in South Africa which appeared in the editorial columns of the *Brazilian Review* last week, can hardly be treated seriously. It can not be admitted for a moment that a civilian in Rio de Janeiro is competent to pass so extreme a judgment on three experienced British generals in a distant and to him unknown country like South Africa. Other generals than these have suffered defeat before, and it has been the fortune of war that these, too, should meet with reverses. And the opinion of the *Brazilian Review* that they are "asses" will probably not disturb them in the least. They have a better and braver enemy in front of them.

WE ARE very sorry we can not oblige our bumptious contemporary by withdrawing from financial discussions. We do not pretend to be the ultimate authority in such matters, therefore we can not trespass on his special grounds, but somebody must uphold the credit of the country, you know, when such papers as the *Brazilian Review* are spreading seeds of distrust throughout Europe in regard to our good faith and our ability to resume interest payments in 1901. Of course we don't mind a little instruction now and then on the subject, especially when our self-elected instructor considers it a sacred duty to place his wealth of knowledge at our service. But we should be very glad to have him try just a little lesson at a time, so that he can find space enough to make his meanings clear.

In giving an account of the action of Consul-General Wagstaff in regard to the exhibition of an insulting cartoon by the director of a local journal, the *Pais* of the 24th misrepresents the case altogether. The caricature was that of a French paper which had been suppressed in Paris, but a copy had found its way out here and its possession was seeking to make capital out of it. Mr. Wagstaff first tried to buy the caricature, but Mr. Reynaud would not sell it. He then appealed to the chief of police, who had the wretched sheet removed from the window. As we have said before, no one can object to fair criticism, but to publish indecent and insulting caricatures of a sovereign is quite another thing. Public morality as well as international courtesy demands the right suppression of such publications, and we are glad the chief of police acted as he did. If the *Pais*, whose chief editor aspires to the presidency, wishes to defend such infamous publications, it can of course do so.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

We are advised that the committee in charge of receiving subscriptions for the relief of the families of soldiers killed or disabled in the South African war, sent home on Friday last the very handsome sum of £700 to the Kipling Fund which the *Daily Mail* so successfully promoting. Besides this remittance the committee had about 1,600 on hand (over £45), which, let us hope, will be further increased to the £800 which the committee expected to raise.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN APPRECIATIVE RESPONSE.

Rio de Janeiro, 21st December, 1899.

My dear Mr. Lamoureux:

In the *Bulletin* of the 19th inst. and *Rio News* of the same date the generous action of Mr. Watney of the *Daily Mail* and your good self with regard to the *Bulletin* telegrams and the Kipling Fund, received the recognition which it so heartily deserved at the hands of the British community of Rio de Janeiro. I know something of other parts of Brazil where Britishers live, besides Rio, and may safely say that the sentiments expressed in Mr. DeLisle's letter are heartily echoed by every sportsman in Brazil, amongst whom you, Mr. Lamoureux, are reckoned as one of themselves.

That your natural modesty will not prevent you from publishing these few lines is the sincere wish of

AN OLD SPORT.

RIO SEAMEN'S MISSION.

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 23, 1899.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Will you please announce that the seamen's entertainment marked for the 29th inst. will not be held. There are very few men on shore, and the captains at present in port are not willing to allow their sailors to come from the ships.

I am, Sir,

Yours most gratefully,

W. J. LUMBY,

Port Missionary.

BAHIA.

Bahia, 13th December, 1899.

To the Editor.

I am glad to advise you that the trade here has improved somewhat, but the health of the city has again gone wrong. You will remember that some time ago the Rev. G. W. Chamberlain lost a daughter from yellow fever contracted in this city. Now he has lost a son from the same terrible disease. The young man had only just returned from college in S. Paulo, took the fever here, and died Wednesday last. And now two more daughters of this same gentleman are down with the fever here in Bahia!

The police are still going about provided with ball cartridges—a strange provision surely for a pacific people in times of profound peace. In passing the lower city police station I saw the sentry drop some of them from his belt.

I hear that the English masonic lodge of this city (the Duke of Clarence Lodge No. 4) has initiated a subscription list amongst its members and that they hope to raise from 200 to 500 shillings for the *Daily Telegraph* fund for the widows and orphans. This amount I believe is being taken home by their worshipful master Bro. L. G. Mackay, who leaves for England on the 15th.

I have also seen another list of residents which I believe is in the hands of H. B. M's. consul, and I believe it promises to yield a large amount.

With the compliments of the season,

BABIANO.

PARÁ'S CONTRIBUTION.

Pará, 13th December, 1899.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,

It may interest you to hear that the British colony of Pará, consisting of some 70 to 80 members, have subscribed and remitted to England about £230 to £240, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the absent-minded beggars at present fighting in South Africa.

Considering that the vast majority of the subscribers are emigrants, I think you will agree the amount sent home is a credit to our small community; and though this letter is not necessarily intended for publication, still if the other British communities in Brazil and other parts of South America learn what we have done, they may feel inclined to take the cause up also and still further swell the home subscriptions.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

W. CALLARD.

The contribution is a most generous one and does credit to the English residents of Pará. If every colony in Brazil does as well, they will be sending home not far from three thousand pounds, but we presume the aggregate will fall short of that sum. Pará, however, is to be warmly congratulated for the liberal contribution which she has made.—*Lds. News.*

BRAZILIAN NEWSPAPERS AND THE WAR.

A SUGGESTION.

To the Editor of "The Rio News"

Dear Sir,—In these times of universal disquiet and anxiety amongst us Britons abroad, cannot a combined attempt be made by Englishmen resident in this country to rid themselves of dependence for news of the Transvaal war on the long strings of Anglophobe rubbish published as "telegrams" from "Capetown," "Durban," and so on, by the newspapers here?

It seems to me that if some public-spirited responsible English firm would take the trouble to make arrangements with the home correspondents by which, while the war lasts, a brief and business-like message could be sent—not necessarily every day, but whenever there was tidings of special interest—containing the most accurate information obtainable in London as to the security of besieged places, the result of engagements, etc., a sufficient number of Englishmen could readily be found to gratefully subscribe the funds necessary to cover the expense incurred. The cables would, of course, be sent in the firm's cipher; translated and copied by subscribers; and then forwarded privately to the subscribers, who should be Englishmen only, or such others as could be trusted not to communicate their contents to the press.

Foreigners could then garble their telegrams and abuse our countrymen to their heart's content and our amusement; while Englishmen could use the local papers as little as possible, and in hosts of cases boycott them altogether. The present is a specially good time to put the latter idea in practice, as editors are anxiously scanning their lists of subscribers with a view to renewals; and a general suspension of English subscriptions might serve as a hint to Brazilian and other foreign editors, that instead of making their telegraphic column a vehicle for the indulgence of their petty spite against England, it would pay them better to be searchers after truth. Two papers which specially merit the treatment here suggested are the *Commercio de S. Paulo* and the *Diario Popular* of the same city.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

A. LAMIERCK ROOINEK.

São Paulo, Dec. 14th, 1899.

THE KILLED AT THE MODDER.

Colonel H. P. Northcott, of the Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment, was acting as deputy assistant adjutant general to the first army corps. Colonel Northcott served in the Sherbro expedition in 1883 with the West India Regiment, being mentioned in despatches, and received the C. B. He also served in the operations in Zululand in 1888 as D. A. A. G., and was under Sir Samuel Scott in the Ashanti expedition in 1895, as well as being in the operations in the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast in 1897-98, and commanded the expedition at Karaja, for which he was made a brevet lieutenant-colonel.

Colonel Horace Stopford, who was killed in the Modder River battle, was the only son of the late Mr. Robert Stopford by his marriage with Matilda Caroline, daughter of General Birch Reynardson, of Holywell Hall, Lincolnshire. Colonel Stopford entered the Coldstream Guards in 1874, and succeeded to the command of the second battalion only a few months ago. He was born in 1855, and married in 1885 Miss MacDowell, and by her leaves a son and a daughter.

Captain Sydney Earle, of the Coldstream Guards, held the post of deputy assistant adjutant-general for instruction in the home district, and went out to South Africa as a special service officer. He was in his thirty-fifth year, and had been serving nearly fifteen years in the Coldstreamers, but with no previous war service.—*Daily Mail.*

COFFEE NOTES

—According to the *New York Journal of Commerce*, of Nov. 28, President Murphy of the New York board of health had prohibited the landing in that city of the coffee from the quarantined steamer "J. W. Taylor," notwithstanding the opinion of Health Officer Doty that no harm would result.

—Health Officer Doty, after a thorough examination of the history of the mbanic plague on board of the steamer "J. W. Taylor," has decided to discharge the cargo of coffee into lighters and keep the loaded lighters at quarantine for a period of eight days. Dr. Doty believes that the exposure of the coffee to the air at this season of the year will be ample protection from the danger of infection.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce*, Nov. 27.

AUSTRALIAN COFFEE.

According to the British press, one of the honorary commissioners for the Queensland court at the Earl's Court exhibition (Mr. J. W. Cullen) was recently interviewed on his arrival in London. Mr. Cullen sets great store by the coffee-growing prospects of Clump Point, and he has with him samples of the berry, which he has shown to Mincing lane experts. There are 80,000 plants on the estate, and he intends to devote a considerable area to coffee growing. More or less coffee is already grown in North Queensland, and the local markets take all that is produced at a remunerative figure—say about 3½d. per lb. in the "parliament." The coffee plants bear in five years. For the first year the plants are carefully tended in a nursery, after which they are planted out and thrive well. There are two crops, in May and December. The "cherry"—the twin berries enclosed in a sweetish pulp—is picked by the blacks; it is then pulped by machinery. The next process is the removal of the parchment covering of the bean, which is then in a condition to be marketed. If the coffee is destined for exportation the parchment is left on. Roasting and grinding are the remaining processes to fit the coffee bean for use at the breakfast table. In the matter of flavor, the all-important thing, North Queensland ground coffee has been pronounced a dangerous rival to the produce of the East Indies and the article is likely to be extensively cultivated in the tropical, well-watered lands of the northern coast.—*Merchants' Review.*

From N. Y. Jour. of Commerce, Nov. 28.

ACTIVITY IN COFFEE.

There was marked activity on the New York Coffee Exchange yesterday, the sales of futures reaching 117,250 bags, the heaviest total for a long time, while closing prices indicated an advance of 20 to 30 points. The advance was due to crop accounts reporting damage to the flowering of the growing crop by heavy rains and was helped also by an advance of ½c in the price of their package coffee by the Woolson Spice Co. Aretz & Co., Rio, estimated the next Rio crop at 2,500,000 to 2,750,000 bags, while on the other hand, cable advices were received from Norton, Megaw & Co., Rio, saying: "We attach no importance to the reports of damage to the growing crops. The growing Rio and Santos crops will probably be 10,000,000 bags."

The following shows the amount of coffee afloat per steamer from Santos, Victoria and Bahia:

	From			
	Santos.	Rio.	Victoria.	Bahia
Nov. 11.—Newton.....	24,000	18,000	.....	.....
Nov. 10.—Wiltowdene.....	14,000	33,000	.....	.....
Nov. 4.—Roman Fr.....	37,000	.....	.....	.....
Nov. 13.—Capri.....	.....	28,000	.....	5,000
Nov. 9.—Lavel.....	24,000	.....	.....	.....
Nov. 10.—Nagusa.....	24,000	.....	.....	.....
Nov. 11.—Asli.....	12,000	.....	.....	.....
Nov. 20.—Wordsworth.....	20,000	.....	.....	.....
Nov. 23.—Livorno.....	34,000	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	144,000	156,000	18,000	5,000
Last year.....	58,000	130,000	17,000	13,000

* For New Orleans.

The first steamer to arrive here from Santos since the coming of the J. W. Taylor reached quarantine yesterday and was promptly detained. She is the Prince liner "Roman Prince," laden with coffee. Captain McMillan reported to Health Officer Doty that everybody on his ship was in perfect health. He was anxious to get to dock for a November landing, but the health officer said that the cargo would probably have to be discharged into lighters.

MR. E. F. KNIGHT.

WOUNDED AT BELMONT.

Mr. E. F. Knight, the special correspondent who has lost his arm at Belmont, is one of the men to whom adventure is among the necessities of life. A barrister, a soldier, and above all things an intrepid traveller, he has been a spectator and a chronicler of nearly all the fighting of recent years. The present is his sixth campaign since 1891. He fought as a volunteer for the French in 1870. During the Gilet campaign, he was pressed into the service, in a dearth of officers, and commanded a native company.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—The police delegado of Rosario, Sergipe, Manoel Ferreira, has been assassinated.

—In Paralyba there has been fighting between policemen and soldiers of the 27th battalion of infantry.

—The political ring which is governing the state of Amapá has resolved to nominate Dr. Eduardo Ribeiro as governor.

—Gen. Arthur Oscar has been relieved, at his request, of the command of the 2nd military district and Gen. Travassos has been appointed to succeed him.

—We regret to hear of the death, on the 19th inst., of Mr. Henry Airle, a highly respected merchant and British vice-consul at Maranhão.

—There was a conflict between soldiers of the 27th battalion and of the police corps in Paralyba on the night of the 18th. Two policemen were injured.

—Complaints having been made by the São Paulo authorities of the delays in dispatching immigrants' luggage at the Rio Cistern-house, the minister of finance has given orders to expedite that service.

—The passport service in São Paulo has been suspended, as no more cases of bubonic pest have appeared in that city, and no new cases have appeared in Santos for a fortnight. In Santos, however, the passport plague still continues.

—The federalist party at S. Francisco, Santa Catharina, has greatly offended the government by stating that the country is passing through a period of oppression, and that the people are being crushed by the weight of taxation. Nothing hurts more than the plain truth.

—Col. Antonio Paes de Barros, one of the most influential members of Murinho's party in Matto Grosso, has abandoned that party and issued a manifesto saying that in view of the reprehensible conduct of the party managers, he retires in disgust from politics.

—The agricultural club at S. João d'El Rey is complaining of plans on the part of the election officials to carry the coming election by fraud. The election boards have been appointed secretly and it is believed that independent voters will be excluded, while fraudulent votes will be counted.

—The editor of the *Pharol* telegraphs that the governor of Minas Geraes has sent police detachments to Rio Preto, Viosa, S. Paulo de Muriaé, Prata and Uberaba for the purpose of carrying the congressional elections by force. These are districts in which the agricultural party is very strong. The *Pharol* advises resolute resistance.

—A Porto Alegre telegram of the 19th says that a Brazilian youth named Juvencio, arrested for ravishing and murdering a little girl at the S. Francisco colony, had been taken out of jail by a mob of about 300 persons, and then lynched and burned, his head being exposed at the cross roads. The colonists evidently object to that very common species of crime.

—The cassilista prosecuting attorney at Alegrete has appealed from the sentence condemning Dr. Barros Cassal to imprisonment for 1 year, 11 months and 12 hours. It is stated that the motive for the appeal is that the cassilista government expects to cause Cassal to be sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, and all this because he had the courage to denounce the cassilista government and João Francisco in open court!

—At Bahia on the 21st inst. two soldiers of the 5th battalion of artillery, armed with swords, posted themselves at one of the street corners and attacked persons who were passing. A police force attempted to arrest them, but they resisted and attacked the ensign commanding the force, who was dangerously wounded, as was also one of the assailants. The other assailant and several other persons, including two women, were likewise wounded. The arrest of the disorderly soldiers was finally effected.

—The São Paulo police authorities are putting themselves in a false position by refusing to investigate the accusations against Col. Anacleto Dias Baptista Pires, of Avare, who has been accused of treating his colonists and laborers with brutality, of starving, imprisoning and not paying them, and even of making way with them. Four Italians disappeared about three months ago, and it is said they were murdered. An informant was returned to him by the police and has disappeared. Complaints have appeared in the press, but as the accused is the political chief of that district nothing has been done.

—Reuter's agent at Pretoria reports an interview with Mr. Winston Churchill, who was captured at Chieveley. He estimates the British losses at killed and 38 wounded. In reply to a question as to his general impressions, Mr. Churchill said he had had many discussions with the Boers with regard to the rights of the war, and had been much impressed to find so large a number speaking English. The Boers, he gathered, mostly regretted the war, saying it had arisen through misrepresentations, but he found the spirit of the burghers in the field, despite their many privations, most determined. He concluded that there was no chance of early peace, and feared the struggle would be bloody and protracted.

RAILROAD NOTES

—There was a suspension of traffic on the Serra section of the São Paulo railway from Monday morning until Thursday last, because of a very considerable landslide at kilometre 28, on the inclined plane No. 4, on Sunday night. The line was cleared and put in order by Wednesday and general traffic was resumed on Thursday.

—The estimated traffic receipts of the Leopoldina railway for the week ended December 16th were 221,885\$ in currency, against 278,854\$ in the corresponding week of last year, showing a decrease of 56,969\$. Exchange for the week was rated as 6 31/32, against 7 1/4 last year, which gave the sterling equivalent of £ 6,443 this year against £ 9,150 last year. The total receipts since 1st January were £ 509,250, against £ 518,179 in the same period of last year.

—At an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the S. Christovão railway company on the 20th inst. it was voted to at once dismiss Dr. Rodolpho Henrique Baptista, president of the company, from his position as director and to appoint a committee of three to investigate and prepare a balance. It was stated that the police inquiry showed that the defalcation amounts to 314,900\$, but a commission appointed by the directors shows that the loss is 320,517\$240 on hay, bran and other forage alone.

—The embezzlement in the S. Christovão Co. is known to amount to 320,517\$240, but the amount may be found to be larger when a full investigation is made by the committee chosen for this purpose at the meeting of shareholders on last Wednesday. At that meeting the shareholders deprived the president of his office, refusing to take into consideration the voluntary tender of his resignation. It was stated at the meeting that the board of directors had abusively distributed 700 shares among its members and employees and that the proceedings at the previous general meeting has been falsely reported in the respective minutes.

—During the first ten years after work on the Central railway was commenced the operating expenses of that road varied from 43.99% to 84.78% of the gross receipts; during the 2nd decade, from 42.97% to 58.49%; during 3rd decade, from 42.66% to 63.96%. Since then they have been as follows:

1888.	50.72	per cent
1889.	61.90	"
1890.	76.27	"
1891.	75.30	"
1892.	86.17	"
1893.	96.33	"
1894.	97.83	"
1895.	104.21	"
1896.	99.98	"
1897.	101.49	"
1898.	90.99	"

—The approximate weekly traffic returns of the Recife and São Francisco railway (77 1/2 miles), compared with the corresponding week of last year, are as follows:

For week ending November 11th:

	1899	1898	increase
Freight traffic, kilos.....	3,778,516	3,750,784	27,732
Passengers carried.....	10,257 1/2	11,395 1/2	1,138
Total receipts, week.....	44,301\$50	41,261\$60	3,039\$90
do since Jan. 1	1,331,937\$90	1,539,308\$90	*207,370\$90

For week ending November 11th:

	1899	1898	increase
Freight traffic, kilos.....	5,192,367	4,319,375	872,992
Passengers carried.....	10,549	8,962	1,587
Total receipts, week.....	50,920\$780	49,227\$720	1,693\$060
do since Jan. 1	1,391,858\$200	1,588,533\$600	*196,675\$600

For week ending November 12th:

	1899	1898	increase
Freight traffic, kilos.....	5,061,578	4,092,485	969,093
Passengers carried.....	10,860	9,609	1,251
Total receipts, week.....	60,256\$990	50,353,190	9,903\$800
do since Jan. 1	1,434,112\$990	1,638,868\$790	*196,771\$900

SHIPPING NOTES

—The British cruiser "Arethusa" arrived at Bahia on the 19th inst. She hailed from Plymouth and is bound for the West-Coast. She left for Montevideo on the 23rd.

—The Royal Mail steamer "Niles" having been chartered by the British government for the conveyance of troops to South Africa, her place has been taken by the "Atrato," belonging to the same company.

—The passengers by the "Havelius" from New York and bound for the River Plate, were unable to come ashore because of the abominable sanitary regulations which have been adopted by the Rio and Buenos Aires health authorities. They were kept on board until they could be transferred to the "Magdalena" which sails to-day. This interference with passengers is not only an arbitrary restriction on them, but it involves no inconsiderable loss to the business houses of this city.

—The passengers who left Rio on the 19th inst. for Bahia, Pernambuco and Europe, by the Pacific steamer "Orissa" were as follows: Messrs. O. Leus, J. Whyte, M. Chinnarés, J. and A. Astolpho, J. A. MacDonald and 33 third-class.

—A telegram from Alicante of the 20th inst. says that during a thick fog the Italian str. "Perseo" collided with the str. "Mense," the latter going to the bottom. The crew was saved. The "Perseo" sustained extensive damage and put into Alicante.

—The P. S. N. Co.'s steamer "Oravin," which arrived in Rio on the 18th inst., brought the following passengers from Europe: Mr. and Mrs. S. Boyes and child, Mr. and Mrs. Omeirox and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Costa, Messrs. R. J. Joseph, M. Dickie, M. Charon and one third-class.

—On the 20th inst. the sailors of the Braz. bk. "Juliana Schlosser" were at the capitan's to testify in regard to the murder of the mate. They confessed some time ago. They confess that the mate, Alfredo Tourner, killed the master and his wife two days before reaching Tenerife. They escaped from the ship at that port and Tourner was subsequently killed while resisting arrest by a detachment from a Spanish cruiser. The "Juliana Schlossers" returned to this port on the 19th inst., but the sailors returned on the French str. "Aquitaine."

—The Royal Mail steamer "Magdalena" which arrived in Rio on the 25th inst., brought the following passengers from Europe, Pernambuco and Bahia: Mrs. Kennedy, 2 children and nurse, Miss Spangenberg, Mr. and Mrs. Castilho and infant Mr. and Mrs. J. de Andrade, Mr. and Mrs. Lins, 2 children and nurse, Miss Lins, Mr. and Mrs. Netto, Misses M. and A. Fontes and child, Mr. and Mrs. Matzinger, child and servant, Messrs. F. E. P. Oliveira, J. MacNab, Visconde de Proença L. Woolher, G. C. Jenkins, J. Low, T. Crawford, D. Costa, S. Lopes da Cruz, M. Páges Verheyden, T. Toby, S. Gracie, José Lima, U. A. Meirelles, H. Tréguilles, M. V. Pereira and J. Pires.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY'S SQUADRON.

Washington, Nov. 23.—It is said at the navy department that the disavowal of the department to order Rear-Admiral Schley to South Africa, has no connection with the personality of that officer. Whoever commanded the South Atlantic squadron at this juncture would, it is said, receive similar instructions, for it is regarded as a matter of national policy to refrain from sending warships to either the Cape or to Delagoa Bay. It is felt to be unwise for the United States to initiate the sending of warships to South Africa during the present troubles there. Such action on our part would be followed instantly by the naval powers of the continent, and French, Russian and German fleets would be sent there to complicate the situation.

The itinerary of the southward cruise of the "Chicago" is thus set out by Admiral Schley, in answer to the instructions of the navy department: "Leave New York Saturday, November 25, arrive at St. Lucia December 2; leave St. Lucia December 5, arrive Bahia, Brazil, December 15; leave Bahia December 17, arrive at Buenos Aires, Argentina, December 24."—*N. Y. Jour. of Commerce*, Nov. 24.

THE BUBONIC PLAGUE.

EFFECT ON COFFEE MARKET—NO DANGER OF DISEASE SPREADING.

The arrival of the steamship J. W. Taylor from Santos, with bubonic plague on board, had a bullish effect on the coffee market yesterday, some members of the coffee trade being apprehensive of a quarantine being established against vessels sailing from Santos. The market started with an advance of 20 to 25 points, which was followed by a further advance of 5 points. The excitement and activity extended to the street, where the actual coffee is dealt in, and the price for Brazilian coffee on the spot was advanced one-half cent a pound to 6 1/2 cents.

The patients removed from the steamer suffering from the plague are improving. Dr. L'Honnemied, who returned from a visit to Swinburne Island hospital yesterday afternoon, said: "The patients are doing as well as can be expected, and I have every reason to believe that all danger of infection from these patients is past. I say this because the cultures made by Dr. Fitzpatrick show a negative result. No trace of the germ of bubonic plague was found. This indicated that the disease has run its course and that the germs do not exist in the patients. We have at our laboratory an ample supply of bubonic plague serum, but it was not necessary to use it in these cases, as the patients were convalescing when they arrived."

The holds of the steamer have been subjected to the fumes of sulphur almost continuously since arrival. Each hatchway has a shoot or shaft to the bottom of the hold for ventilation. It is expected that the sulphur fumes will penetrate through these ventilators and kill all rats that may be in the holds. The discharge of the cargo has been delayed owing to the inability of the agents of the steamer to make the arrangements required by the quarantine officials.

When the cargo is discharged the holds will be cleaned and washed down by a solution of bichloride of mercury. Then another sulphur fumigation will be given to kill the rats that may remain. Steam will also be used as a final remedy. The crew will be subjected

to a detention of fifteen days of observation to comply with the rules formulated by the Federal quarantine authorities, which Dr. Doty some time since agreed to carry out.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce*, Nov. 21.

President Murphy, of the board of health, said yesterday that he has been assured the dock board would co-operate with him preventing the plague infected steamship *oj. W. Taylor* from coming to any pier in this city or from discharging her cargo here.

The "Taylor" began discharging her cargo of coffee yesterday. At the close of the day's work between 4800 and 1900 sacks had been taken out of the ship. The lighters will remain in quarantine until it is finally decided whether to rebag the coffee.—*N. Y. Commercial*, Nov. 25.

LOCAL NOTES

—Mr. J. H. Wicks, director of the Leopoldina Railway Co., who has spent several months in Rio looking after the company's interests, was a passenger by the "Orissa" on the 18th inst.

—The large telephone post at the corners of the Ouvidor and Direita is said to be very misshapen. The authorities should have these dangerous posts removed at once and not leave them until an accident occurs.

—As we suspected, Gen. Arthur Oscar abused his authority in ordering the arrest of Dr. Thomaz Pompeu. The war department has ordered the prisoner's release and will, we trust, take steps for punishing the general.

—A telegram published here on the morning of the 22nd inst. announced that Gen. Arthur Oscar had sent in his resignation. He evidently can not understand why he should not be permitted to arrest civilians at his sweet pleasure.

—Mr. E. C. Joseph, of the house of Gustavus Gudgeon & Co., arrived in Rio from England by the *Oravia* on the 18th inst. and received a hearty welcome which was an ovation in a small way when his genial presence became known in the course of the day.

—Will the *Journal* tell us when that cable was laid to the Simoum islands. A Havas telegram dated "Apia 19th December," and published here on the 20th, says the German consul there had proclaimed the annexation of the Simoum islands. Perhaps they are telegraphing without wires out there.

—We are indebted to Messrs. Norton, Megaw & Co., Ltd., agents of the widely-known Lamport & Holt line of steamers, for copies of the attractive wall calendars for next year which that company is issuing. It shows one of their new steamers passing a sailing vessel at sea and gives a list of 45 steamers (two under construction) belonging to the company.

—Amongst those booked for England by the *Gothic* on the 29th inst. are Mr. T. M. Williams of the London & River Plate Bank of this city, his wife and two charming children. Mr. Williams goes home for a well-earned holiday after five years' hard work, and his host of friends wish him luck, health and every enjoyment during his six months stay in his native Cornwall.

—We are in receipt of copies of the artistically-printed and very convenient office calendars issued by the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., of which Messrs. Edward Ashworth & Co. are agents in this capital. The back of each month's sheet is provided with lines and dates for memoranda which adds materially to its usefulness. The agents will accept our best thanks for the *lembrança*.

—An English contemporary has the following:—At the gate of the cemetery in Rio there is a notice in Spanish, French and English that no dogs are admitted unless led by the owner. This is how the announcement is made, in what the writer evidently believed was English:—"Noble messdames and gentlemen who may desire a dog follow in this town byway will not be permission unless him drawn by a cable round him throttle." It is evidently necessary to go abroad for really reliable Rio news.

—We regret to learn that the naval school under the direction of the florimista Admiral Proença is fast losing its enviable reputation for order and discipline. We understand that there have been disturbances there and that recently one of the pictures was taken from the dining-room wall by unknown persons and destroyed. The director is now said to be at loggerheads with the faculty. It is reported that the government contemplates removing Proença; but it seems, unfortunately, that the latter, if removed, will be succeeded by Admiral Júlio de Noronha, who is, perhaps, still more objectionable.

—Whatever may be the motives of *O País* in opposing any general enforcement of the permission to the Gas Co. to exact a cash deposit in advance from consumers, there is no question of the fact that such an exaction would constitute a very serious abuse. It would be a hardship to an immense number of consumers, and it would be placing a very large sum of money in the hands of the company, free of interest, for its own use. A very considerable percentage of this would never be reclaimed. In our opinion the gas account should be a privileged lien on the house property, leaving it to the proprietor to secure a direct guarantee from the tenant, as many already do.

—Our readers will be interested to know that Mr. G. W. Nicolls, so well known here in business and social circles, left Rio on the R. M. S. Clyde on the 13th inst., for Pernambuco, where he is to assume the post of sub-manager of the Banco de Pernambuco. Mr. Nicolls is an old resident of Rio, and was in Pernambuco, and Pará before coming here. He was also in Rio Grande for a time. He has had a wide banking experience and the Banco de Pernambuco is to be congratulated on securing his services.

—The letter in which the Emperor of China responded to the notification made to him in common with all heads of states, to the effect that Dr. Campos Salles had assumed the presidency of the United States of Brazil, is said to be a veritable *chef d'œuvre* of Asiatic art. The imperial missive is ornamented with designs and symbols, beautifully embroidered in silk and gold thread. It is about two metres in size, and the Chinese characters which are written on parchment, are encased with red dragons. This precious document was enclosed in an envelope, also embroidered in gold, silver, and silk, which was protected by a covering of yellow silk of exquisite fineness. —*Textile Mercury*, Dec. 2.

BIRTH.

On 20th inst., at No. K 1 Travessa Sorocaba, Botafogo, the wife of Cecil Murly, of a son.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Collegio Salesiano de Niteroy.—We are in receipt of various publications issued by this widely known school, addressed to those who have contributed to its success. Of the contributions, one entitled "O Orphão Mendigo," by D. Amélia Rodrigues, deserves special mention. The directors will accept our thanks for the *bons festes* sent to us, and accept our best wishes in return.

Documentos relativos à Independência: compiled by Francisco Maria Iglesias, San José, Costa Rica; Tipografia Nacional, 1899. Consists of documents existing in the public archives, whose publication was authorized some time since. The present volume follows one devoted to the organization of the revolutionary government, and consists of the acts of the *ayuntamientos*, from the last days of 1821 to December 1823. It is a work of great value in the study of American history.

BUSINESS NOTES

—At Maranhão the customs warehouses are said to be filled with merchandise, hurried in to avoid the new gold duties.

—The hat factory of the Companhia Braga Costa employs 400 operatives, of whom 100 are women and children, and manufactures 2,000 hats per diem.

—The Caricoa spinning and weaving factory employs about 1,000 operatives, has 950 looms and manufactures about 800,000 metres of cotton fabrics a month.

—The custom-house officials are refusing to permit the cancellation of revenue stamps with the rubber or metal stamps generally used in banks and business houses. Why this vexatious restriction should be imposed, no one but a red-tape official can explain.

—The president of the tribunal of accounts on the 20th inst. ordered the registration of the payment of 9000 to J. P. Wilman for translating and publishing the note calling for tenders for the lease of government railways.

—The administration of the Central railway has accepted the proposal of Srs. Main & Niemeyer, successors of the firm of Srs. Soares & Niemeyer which was recently in financial difficulties, for the printing of 21,000,000 of passenger tickets.

—The Companhia de Serviço Geral de Transportes Maritimos has had to submit to an abatement of 28 per cent in collecting the sum awarded to them by judicial sentence against the government. What, then, is the use of appealing to the courts, if the government will not satisfy the judgment?

—Repeated complaints are made by business men of the apparently intentional delays in the dispatch of merchandise in the custom-house. To compel merchants to pay additional duties on such merchandise will be an indelible disgrace, even for a minister who seems to be insensible to the equities of such matters.

—In reply to the proposal of civil engineers B. Rymkiewicz and Carlos A. Hargreaves to lease the lands now occupied by the marine arsenal for the purpose of constructing there docks and bonded warehouses, the minister of industry says that it is untimely to study any proposal before the minister of marine has definitely resolved upon the removal of the arsenal.

—The Bangú spinning and weaving factory, belonging to the Companhia Progresso Industrial do Brazil, has 1,221 looms and employs in the various departments of its service 1,203 persons, of whom 558 are men, 286 women, 205 boys and 154 girls. It makes 36,000 metres of cotton fabrics per diem. The sales in 1898 amounted to 5,361,941\$680 and in the first half of the present year to over 4,000,000\$000.

—The official value of butter shipped from France to Brazil in 1898 was 5,713,472 francs.

—The London *Evening News*, one of the Harmsworth publications, has reached a maximum issue of nearly 750,000 in one day. At a recent meeting of shareholders, the chairman, (Mr. A. C. Harmsworth) announced a dividend for the last six months at the rate of 27 1/2 per cent for the year, making 20 per cent for the whole year. A Transvaal gold mine could not be much better than that.

—A recent number of the *Commercio do Amazonas* complains of a lack of food-stuffs in the Mandos market. It seems that merchants have not been able, on account of insufficient transportation facilities, to obtain goods that they have ordered. The consequence is that prices are unduly high, and there is much suffering among the poorer classes. This state of affairs is partly due, no doubt, to restrictions on trade through measures adopted by the sanitary authorities for preventing the spread of the bilious plague.

—The minister of industry has advised the minister of marine that he had no intention of authorizing the representatives of the Rio de Janeiro Harbour and Dock Co. to make use, in any character, of any point on Cobras Island, which is national property and a fortified place. The said company, he explains, is entitled under its concession to the lands reclaimed and the shore line necessary for its edifices, etc., and to similar rights and privileges already conceded to the Santos Docks Co.

—After the 1st of January next the stamp tax on exchange operations for periods exceeding five days will be 1\$000 per £1,000, or its equivalent in other money, for a period of 30 days, the tax to be repeated for each additional period of 30 days. The stamp must be attached to the contract by the broker who will collect it from the seller. The penalty is a fine of ten times the amount of the tax, which fine can not be less than 1,000\$, payable by the seller, and of five times the tax, not less than 500\$, payable by the broker. Informers will receive one half the fine!

—Even gold mining does not seem to pay very well just now in Brazil. The annual report for the year ended June 30 last of the Ouro Preto Gold Mines is an instance. This company has not paid a dividend since February, 1896, and its profits for the year under review barely suffice to meet the interest and discount on the debentures and the depreciation of machinery, &c., and put the recapitulation of debentures out of the question for the present. However, there has been a slight increase in the value of the ore crushed, and a reduction of 1 1/2 per cent in the export duty on the gold has been obtained from the state government. It comes into force on January 1 next, and is stated to involve a saving to the company of £1,100 a year on the present output. —*Financial News*, Dec. 1.

—Some commercial negotiations have been going on for some time between Italy and Brazil, and between France and Brazil. Of course the difficulties in these matters always are—what shall each concede to the other? Sometimes these are varied by the arrogant demands which a strong party will make upon a weak one. We do not know whether the two European powers named are trying such a thing upon Brazil or not, but matters do not appear to be proceeding smoothly. A dispatch has been received from Rio de Janeiro which states that the Brazilian government has rejected the plan of tariffs proposed by Italy and France, and demands a reduction of the duty on coffee imports, which it considers prohibitive. We are afraid France will consider this an attack upon her sacred rights and dignity. But unfortunately there has not seemed to be much stability of purpose about Brazil since its government fell into the hands of the demagogic and self-seeking adventurers who feast like leeches upon the various states of the southern continent. At the present moment trade with Brazil is almost at a standstill owing to the instability of its tariff. This, it has been announced, will be altered again for the new year; and yet no intimation of the nature of the change has been given, even to its consular service! Merchants may make up their minds, we fear, that the change will not be in the direction of a reduction. —*Textile Mercury*, Dec. 2.

—The postmistress of Lady Grey, who so pluckily repulsed the Boers and pulled down the Free State flag which they had hoisted, replacing it by the Union Jack, is a Miss Harris, who has been in charge of the postoffice in that township for many years. Miss Harris is well known throughout the colony as a fearless, independent woman, with a very strong and sympathetic personality, and she has many friends in Capetown and Kimberley. She is also the village librarian, the local church organist, and takes a prominent part in the management of municipal affairs in the Lady Grey district. —*Daily Mail*.

—The late Vice-President Hobart probably had as many friends and fewer enemies than any other public man of the day. He was a very active and pushing man of business and unusually successful, besides giving much of his time to politics, but he always had sufficient leisure to be courteous and genial in manner, and his honesty was above suspicion. It appears that the breakdown of his health was caused by a too incessant devotion to his official and business duties. —*Merchants' Review*.

FINANCIAL NOTES

—From 1st January to 30th November the consumption taxes collected in this capital amounted to 7,313,341\$150, and the registry tax to 304,362\$. Of this revenue tobacco furnishes a quota of 1,915,688\$620, and friction matches 3,606,390\$000.

—The government has made an appropriation of 1,341,897\$700 for paying the cost of the reception and entertainment of President Roca and his suite. We are pleased to see at last an official statement of money thus spent and we are now patiently waiting to learn what benefit was derived from it.

—He says that too much advice about retrenchment may lead to retrenchment of interest. "What does he mean by that?" I suppose he means that, if we resume payment of interest, we may pay it in homeopathic doses. "Tell him not to say it again. Does he imagine that such talk as that will contribute to strengthen the credit of the country?"

—Now, this is a proper reduction! And the minister of finance has our sincere congratulations on it! By a judicial sentence the national treasury has been condemned to pay the Companhia Estrada de Ferro Chopim the sum of 6,000,000\$ as indemnisation. This railway was an outgrowth of our period of speculation. The minister of finance has arranged, however, it is said, for the settlement of this sentence by the payment of 3,000,000\$, or one half the amount of the judgment.

—Holders of Brazilian bonds know to their cost that the government of that republic decided in 1898 to fund for three years, ending at June, 1901, the interest on all loans known in this country, with the exception of the four per cents of 1899. The *Brazilian Review*, of Rio de Janeiro, which is generally recognized as one of the official organs of the government, has recently published an article which is evidently intended to prepare foreign bondholders for an indefinite extension of the funding scheme. —*London Morning Leader*, Nov. 30.

—"Did you tell him to say that it's imprudent to reduce expenditure?" — "No, I didn't. Why?" — "Because he mustn't say it. It makes people ask whether it isn't still more imprudent to continue increasing taxation." — "Well, he said it on his own account. That's his little game. He's not afraid of taxes, because he knows that we have to pay 'em for him; but when you speak of retrenchment, you frighten him. He knows perfectly well that, if our pretence of economizing were not a mere farce, parasites would have to go and the national printing-office would cease to be a *refugium peccatorum*."

—He says he bets his life we get 24,000,000\$ from our 15 1/2% gold duty. "Who told him to say that?" He mustn't say things that he's not instructed to say. *Tus trop de zele*. He doesn't even seem to know that he is contributing to destroy confidence in our budget, and you recollect how much that budget cost us. Two months and 19 days' additional pay for all the senators and deputies besides the cost of reporting and publishing the debates and other contingent expenses. And now he's discrediting that costly budget by saying that the 15 1/2% gold duty will produce 24,000,000\$ when the budget says that it will produce 17,000,000\$. I am sure that none of us told him to say that! Why, with one stroke of the pen it deprives us of 3,000,000\$ in gold and 17,000,000\$ in currency, for of course, if there is a shortage in the gold receipts, there'll be an equivalent shortage in our currency receipts from import duties. That fellow will ruin us yet. What else does he say?" — "He says he bets his bottom dollar that we resume payment of interest, even if we have to suspend again." — "Did you ever hear of anything more absurd? Why should we resume payment, if we have to suspend again? And the public makes us responsible for such stuff!" — "Perhaps he thinks—No, he doesn't. He's incapable of doing it, he's not paid to do it and he's not expected to do it. Whenever he attempts it, it results, as you see, in a palpable absurdity. Besides, there's no use in his saying that he bets his bottom dollar, when everybody knows that the bottom dollar, and all the other dollars (if there are any left) are not his, but ours. He must be taught that he mustn't take such liberties with our money."

COMMERCIAL.

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 26th, 1899.

Par value of the Brazilian milreis (1\$000), gold, 27 d.
do of the Brazilian milreis (1\$000) in U. S. coin at 48.65 per \$ 27 d.
do 1 \$100 in U. S. coin at 48.65 per \$ 27 d.
do of 1 \$100 in Brazilian gold, 1897 27 d.
do of 1 \$100 in Brazilian gold, 1898 27 d.

Bank rate of exchange, official, on London to-day 7 d.
Present value of the Brazilian milreis (gold) 38.87
Present value of the Brazilian milreis (paper) 259 rs. gold
Present value of the Brazilian milreis in U. S. coin at 48.65 per \$ 14.00
Value of 1 \$100 (\$4.80 per \$ 1 str. in Brazilian currency (paper) 2808
Value of 1 sterling " 34.85

EXCHANGE.

Dec. 18.—The market continues undecided, and with only a limited movement.

Official quotations on London were:

Bank bills..... opening 6 31/32
"..... closing 6 31/32
Private bills..... opening 7 1/32
"..... closing 7 1/32

Official value of the milreis 257 reis gold.

Dec. 19.—Today's market was a trifle firmer, but business was still limited.

Official quotations on London were:

Bank bills..... opening 6 31/32—7
"..... closing 7
Private bills..... opening 7 1/32
"..... closing 7 1/32—7 1/16

Official value of the milreis was 257-259 reis gold.

Dec. 20.—There was no change in the situation of the market, but rates were not quite as firm as yesterday's. Transactions reported were small.

Official quotations on London were as follows:

Bank bills..... opening 7
"..... closing 6 31/32
Private bills..... opening 7 1/16
"..... closing 7 1/16—7 1/32

Official value of the milreis 257-259 reis gold.

Dec. 21.—Market remained quiet and without alteration in rates; there was very little business transacted.

The official quotations on London were:

Bank bills..... opening 6 31/32
"..... closing 6 31/32
Private bills..... opening 7 1/16
"..... closing 7 1/16—7 1/32

Official value of the milreis 257-259 reis gold.

Dec. 22.—Today's market showed a decided upwards tendency and there was a fair amount of business reported.

Official quotations on London were as follows:

Bank bills..... opening 7
"..... closing 7 1/16
Private bills..... opening 7 1/32
"..... closing 7 1/32—7 1/16

Official value of the milreis 257-259 reis gold.

Dec. 23.—The market continued firm with rates sustained; there were only a few transactions reported.

Official quotations on London were:

Bank bills..... opening 7 1/32
"..... closing 7 1/32—7 1/16
Private bills..... opening 7 1/16
"..... closing 7 1/16—7 1/32

Official value of the milreis 257-259 reis gold.

MARKET REPORT.

Rio de Janeiro, 26th December 1899.

Exports.

Coffee.—The market was comparatively inactive during the week, the reported sales being only 42,000 bags, against 49,000 bags in the preceding week. The receipts were 36,588 bags, and the shipments 48,588 bags. Quotations show a slight decline.

Foreign advices are to the effect that the total sales for the week were 211,000 bags, against 438,000 in the preceding week and 181,000 bags in the corresponding week of last year. The sales at New York aggregated 59,000 bags, at Havre 72,000, at Hamburg 44,000 and at London 36,000 bags.

The detailed movements of the market during the week were as follows:

Ruling prices during the week for N. Y. Type No. 7 at Rio, and for Good Average at Santos, with daily reported sales at the former market.

	Rio N. 7 per arroba	Reported sales	Santos, Good Average per 100 kilos
Dec. 18.	14\$00—14\$20	6,000 bags	\$8.00
" 19..	" 14.00—14.00	4,000 "	8.50
" 20..	13.80—14.00	9,000 "	8.40
" 21..	13.80—14.00	5,000 "	8.40
" 22..	13.60—13.80	15,000 "	8.50
" 23..	13.40—13.80	3,000 "	8.60

The shipments since our last report have been:

	36,588 bags for the United States
10,648	" Europe
1,162	" Cape of Good Hope
1,327	" River Plate, etc.
48,588 bags.	" Consulate

The following ships sailed with coffee last week:

United States:	bags
Dec. 16 New York Br. str. Coleridge.....	23,252
16 New Orleans Fr. str. Corrientes.....	20,324
19 New York Br. str. Belandene.....	46,027
19 do Br. str. Hogarth.....	28,088
Europe:	
Dec. 16 Havre Port. str. Alvares Cabral.....	285

Elsewhere:	bags
Dec. 20 River Plate Fr. str. Chili.....	318
20 Talcahuano Br. str. Orava.....	75
Coastwise various steamers.....	4,722

The receipts for the past week were 35,588 bags against 41,959 bags for the previous week and 41,069 bags for the week before.

Brokers' quotations, according to New-York types were the following

	Dec. 23	Dec. 17
No. 6....	14\$400	14\$600
7....	13 800	14 000
8....	13 300	13 400
9....	12 800	13 000

The stock in all hands was estimated this morning at 20,606 bags, against 21,975 bags a week ago. The Santos stock is reported at 665,250 bags.

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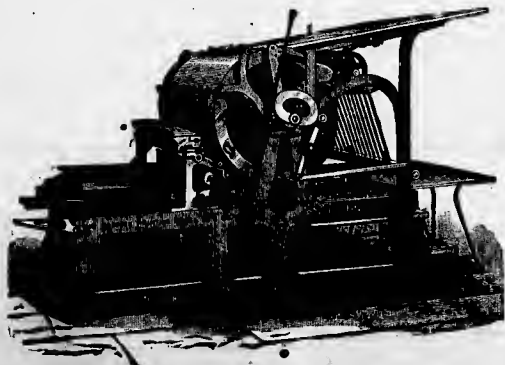
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